

The Washington Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Washington Times A-6
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____

Date 14 JUNE 1989

Inman mea culpa

Former Deputy CIA Director Adm. Bobby Ray Inman, scourge of intelligence hard-liners, admitted that he was wrong to play down the need for strengthening U.S. counterespionage capabilities. The retired admiral received an award last week at a meeting of the Security Affairs Support Association, a private group. According to sources who were there, Adm. Inman told the audience, including many former intelligence officers, that he had been wrong in opposing Reagan administration efforts to beef up counterintelligence—the task of uncovering hostile spies and protecting intelligence sources and methods.

Veteran Inman-watchers said they were suspicious of the sudden change of heart and suspect that Adm. Inman may be quietly seeking to cleanse the blemishes from his career. Why so? Possibly as part of a personal campaign for the job of director of national intelligence,

a super spook czar who would be created by legislation now pending in the Senate.